



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : L. Mercer McKinley, M.D.
Application No. : 10/664,288
Filed : September 17, 2003
Entitled : **ROD APPROXIMATOR**
Docket No. : 101896-206

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

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November 14, 2003

By:

Date of Signature and Mail Deposit

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Commissioner for Patents
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. Copies of the references are not enclosed because this application was filed after June 30, 2003.


It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists, and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)), and thus no fees are believed to be due. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 141449, under Order No. 104934-0002.

Respectfully submitted,

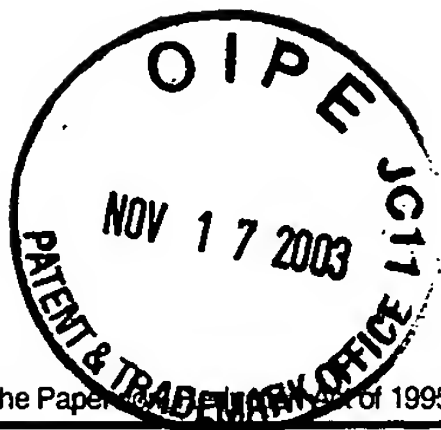
Date: November 14, 2003



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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/664,288
				Filing Date	September 17, 2003
				First Named Inventor	L. Mercer McKinley, M.D.
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	101896-206

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	2003/0199872	10-23-2003	Markworth et al.	
	2	2002/0095153	07-18-2002	Jones et al.	
	3	2002/0095153	07-18-2002	Jones et al.	
	4	6,440,133-B1	08-27-2002	Beale et al.	
	5	6,183,472-B1	02-06-2001	Lutz	
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	7	5,910,141-B1	06-08-1999	Morrison et al.	
	8	5,782,831-B1	07-21-1998	Sherman et al.	
	9	5,720,751-B1	02-24-1998	Jackson	
	10	5,020,519-B1	06-04-1991	Hayes et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

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